Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

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GENEVA FOR BUFFUM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, PFOR, PINT, CY, GR, TU

SUBJ: CYPRUS: UN COMMENTS ON TURKISH ENCLAVES AND

OTHER MATTERS

REF: ANKARA 5940, NICOSIA 1768

1. DURING DISCUSSION OF CURRENT SITUATION ON GROUND IN CYPRUS, UN'S SHERRY RE-EMPHASIZED THAT UNFICYP IS AWARE OF NO INSTANCES OF GREEK ATROCITIES IN OUTLYING TURKISH ENCLAVES. HE CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT TURK CYPRIOTS IN PROVINCES WERE IN A SENSE HOSTAGE TO NATIONAL GUARD. WITH TURKS NOW ENJOYING OVERWHELMING MILITARY SUPERIORITY, ONLY DETERRENT GREEK SIDE HAD AGAINST FURTHER TURKISH CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS WAS THREAT OF MILITARY ACTION CONFIDENTIAL

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AGAINST TURK CYPRIOT VILLAGES.

- 2. AS TO SPECIFIC CHARGE THAT NATIONAL GUARD HAD ATTACKED FIVE TURK CYPRIOT LOCALITIES (ANKARA REFTEL), SECRETARIAT HAD NO REPEAT NO CONFIRMING INFORMATION. NEITHER HAD UNSYG OR UNFICYP BEEN INFORMED OF SITUATION DESCRIBED BY TURKISH FONOFF TO EMBASSY ANKARA. UN HAS ASKED UNFICYP TO LOOK INTO MATTER AND REPORT. COMMENT: DEPARTMENT MAY WISH STRESS TO TURKS DANGER OF UNCONFIRMED ATROCITY STORIES IN PRESENT VOLATILE ATMOSPHERE.
- 3. SHERRY SAID GREEK MISSION HAD COMPLAINED TO UN EARLIER IN DAY THAT SOME 20 TURKISH LANDING CRAFT WERE IN CYRENIA UNLOADING AND WAITING OFFSHORE. UN HAD TAKEN POSITION THAT TURKISH RE-ENFORCEMENT ACTION WAS NOT IN VIOLATION OF CEASEFIRE PROVISIONS OF RESOLUTIONS 353 AND 354 AND THEREFORE NOT UN'S CONCERN. (COMMENT: UN ATTITUDE STRIKES US AS QUESTIONABLE AND SOMEWHAT LEGALISTIC, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF COUNCIL'S DEMAND THAT ALL STATES EXERCISE UTMOST RESTRAINT AND REFRAIN FROM ANY ACTION WHICH MIGHT FURTHER AGGRAVATE SITUATION.)
- 4. WE ASKED SHERRY WHY HE THOUGHT TURKS HAD NOT MOVED ADDITIONAL ARMOR FROM NORTH TO SUPPORT SIX M-60 TANKS OUTSIDE AIPORT IF THEY HAD REALLY INTENDED CARRY THROUGH YESTERDAY'S THREAT TO ATTACK. HE REPLIED SECRETARIAT HAD CONCLUDED GOT NEVER SERIOUSLY CONTEMPLATED ATTACKING AIRPORT ONCE IT HAD BEEN DRIVEN HOME THAT UNFICYP WOULD RESIST. INITIAL TURKISH ASSUMPTION, HE THOUGHT, WAS THAT UN TROOPS WOULD LEAVE AS SOON AS TURKS TOLD THEM TO.
- 5. ACCORDING TO SHERRY, UNFICYP REPORTS THROUGH EARLY AFTERNOON NICOSIA TIME INDICATE SITUATION ON GROUND GENERALLY QUIET AND CEASEFIRE HOLDING THROUGHOUT ISLAND.
- 6. FRENCH MISSION UNDERSTANDS GREEK AMB. PANAYATACOS HAS BEEN DISMISSED AND AMB. KARAGIANNIS WILL REPRESENT GOG AT UN. PRESUMABLY THIS IS DIONYSIOS KARAGIANNIS WHO REPRESENTED GOG ON NUMBER OF UNGA DELS. BENNETT

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